

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01     PRETOR 04369 01 OF 02 251752Z

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDE-00 PM-05  
PA-02 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 EB-08  
NRC-07 OES-07 FEAE-00 DODE-00 ERDA-07 SS-15 SP-02  
ERDE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ARA-14  
EA-12 NEA-10 /147 W

-----055869 251822Z /50

O 251640Z AUG 77 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8572

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 PRETORIA 4369

DEPT PASS TO SECRETARY

LAGOS FOR YOUNG AND MOOSE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MNUC, SF

SUBJECT: TEXT OF PM VORSTER'S REMARKS ON NUCLEAR ENERGY

REF: CAPE TOWN 1239

FOLLOWING IS TEXT AS DELIVERED OF PRIME MINISTER

VORSTER'S REMARKS ON NUCLEAR ISSUES:

BEGIN TEXT NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS WELL KNOWN  
WHEN I SPEAK ABOUT THIS SUBJECT THAT I, AS PRIME MINISTER,  
AND OTHER MINISTERS AS WELL AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN  
ATOMIC ENERGY BOARD, HAVE ON FREQUENT OCCASIONS STATED  
AND REAFFIRMED THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT  
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PAGE 02     PRETOR 04369 01 OF 02 251752Z

FOR THE IDEAL THAT NUCLEAR ENERGY BY USED SOLELY FOR PEACEFUL  
PURPOSES. AS A PRACTICAL MANIFESTATION OF OUR POLICY  
IN SUPPORT OF NON-PROLIFERATION, SOUTH AFRICA HAS  
PARTICIPATED ACTIVELY IN SETTING UP THE SAFEGUARD  
SYSTEM OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY. FURTHERMORE,  
SOUTH AFRICA HAS VOLUNTARILY UNDERTAKEN TO SUPPLY ITS  
URANIUM TO NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES AND ONLY UNDER

AGENCY OR EQUIVALENT SAFEGUARD. INDEED, SOUTH AFRICA HAS THROUGHOUT SCRUPULOUSLY HONORED ALL ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE STATUTE OF THE AGENCY. THERE IS AMPLE EVIDENCE OF THE CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE SOUTH AFRICA HAS PLAYED IN THIS FIELD IN THE AGENCY FROM ITS VERY FOUNDING DAYS. THEREFORE, ALTHOUGH SOUTH AFRICA HAS NOT ACCEDED TO THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT) THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT WE HAVE NOT COOPERATED IN ACHIEVING THE OBJECT OF PREVENTING PROLIFERATION. INDEED ALL THE EVIDENCE SHOWS THAT WE HAVE, IN FACT, COOPERATED TO PREVENT PROLIFERATION. SOUTH AFRICA'S OFFER TO PLACE ITS LARGE-SCALE COMMERCIAL ENRICHMENT PLANT WHICH IS TO BE ERECTED IN SOUTH AFRICA UNILATERALLY UNDER AGENCY SAFEGUARDS WAS TAKEN A STEP FURTHER IN AUGUST 1976, WHEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN ATOMIC ENERGY BOARD ASKED THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE AGENCY TO PROVIDE A PROPOSED DRAFT FOR SUCH AN AGREEMENT. A DESIGN INFORMATION QUESTIONNAIRE WAS RECEIVED IN OCTOBER 1976, FOLLOWED BY A DRAFT SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT AT THE END OF FEBRUARY 1977. SINCE THEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN ATOMIC ENERGY BOARD HAS HAD DISCUSSIONS ON THIS MATTER WITH THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, AND DURING THESE DISCUSSIONS IN SALZBURG, THE PRESIDENT POINTED OUT THAT THE URANIUM ENRICHMENT CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA HAD IN FACT COMPLETED THE QUESTIONNAIRE ASSUMING HYPOTHETICAL CAPACITY FOR THE COMMERCIAL

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PAGE 03     PRETOR 04369 01 OF 02 251752Z

ENRICHMENT PLANT. HE INDICATED, HOWEVER, THAT AS ANNOUNCED BEFORE, THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WOULD ONLY DECIDE ON THE SIZE OF THE PLANT IN 1978. HE POINTED OUT THAT IF THE SIZE DIFFERS SUBSTANTIALY FROM THE ONE THAT HAD BEEN ASSUMED IN FILLING IN THE QUESTIONNAIRE, THE ANSWERS WOULD NOT BE APPLICABLE AT ALL. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WAS AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO WAIT UNTIL THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN A FIRM DECISION ON THE SIZE OF THE COMMERCIAL PLANT BEFORE THE COMPLETION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE AND ITS SUBMISSION TO THE AGENCY. THESE FACTS ARE WELL KNOWN. FURTHERMORE, SOUTH AFRICA HAS ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS IN THE PAST GIVEN CONSIDERATION TO ACCESSION TO THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY. IN THIS PROCESS SOUTH AFRICA MUST NATURALLY BEAR IN MIND THE OBLIGATIONS UNDERTAKEN BY THE OTHER PARTIES ON A BILATERAL AS WELL AS A MULTILATERAL BASIS IN THIS FIELD. FOR INSTANCE, IN TERMS OF ARTICLE IV(2) OF THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY ALL PARTIES UNDERTAKE TO FACILITATE THE FULLEST POSSIBLE EXCHANGE OF EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS, AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL INFORMATION FOR THE PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. ARISING FROM BILATERAL AGREEMENTS, THERE HAVE BEEN SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS IN

REGARD TO THE SUPPLY OF MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT SUBJECT TO  
AGENCY SAFEGUARDS. BUT IT HAS BEEN SOUTH AFRICA'S  
EXPERIENCE IN THE RECENT PAST THAT THESE COMMITMENTS  
HAVE BEEN TOTALLY IGNORED. INEVITABLY SOUTH AFRICA MUST  
IN CONSIDERING ACCESSION TO THE NPT BE INFLUENCED BY THE  
WAY IN WHICH THE POWERS CONCERNED LIVE UP TO THEIR COMMITMENTS  
UNDER BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH SOUTH AFRICA, AS WELL AS  
UNDER ARTICLE IV(2) OF THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY IN  
GENERAL. THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, WHICH  
HAS A RESPONSIBILITY OF INSURING THAT THE OBLIGATIONS  
OF THE NPS ARE CARRIED OUT BY THE SIGNATORIES, MUST  
INSPIRE CONFIDENCE WITH ALL THE PARTIES TO THE TREATY,  
AND ONLY THEN CAN IT FULFILL THESE FUNCTIONS SATISFACTORILY.

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PAGE 04     PRETOR 04369 01 OF 02 251752Z

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PAGE 01     PRETOR 04369 02 OF 02 251800Z

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 ACDE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 EB-08 NRC-07 OES-07 FEAE-00

DODE-00 ERDA-07 SS-15 SP-02 PM-05 PA-02 PRS-01

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UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 PRETORIA 4369

FAR FROM INSPIRING CONFIDENCE, HOWEVER, AND CONTRARY TO

ITS OWN STATUTE, IT DECIDED IN JUNE LAST TO OUST SOUTH AFRICA FROM THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND TO REPLACE IT BY EGYPT "AS THE MOST ADVANCED COUNTRY IN AFRICA IN THE FIELD OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, INCLUDING THE PRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR RAW MATERIALS. "SO IT WAS MOTIVATED. THIS LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, INSPITE OF THE FACT THAT SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE AGENCY, SOUTH AFRICA HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS, AND IN SPITE OF ITS RECOGNIZED POSITION AS A MAJOR PRODUCER OF URANIUM AS WELL AS ITS ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE FIELD OF NUCLEAR RESEARCH, INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW ENRICHMENT PROCESS. FURTHERMORE, COUNTRIES LIKE THE USA HAVE NOT HONORED THE COMMITMENTS THEY HAVE ENTERED INTO BILATERALLY. SO, FOR EXAMPLE, THE USA HAS NOT HONORED THE UNDERTAKING TO SUPPLY FUEL FOR THIS RESEARCH REACTOR, SAFARI I, WHICH IS UNDER FULL INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02     PRETOR 04369 02 OF 02 251800Z

SAFEGUARDS. IN SPITE OF THE UNDERTAKING SOUTH AFRICA HAS GIVEN AND HONORED THAT THE BURNT FUEL ELEMENTS WILL BE RETURNED TO THE USA FOR RE-PROCESSING, NO DELIVERY HAS YET BEEN MADE ON THE FUEL ELEMENTS ORDERED FROM THE USA TWO YEARS AGO, ALTHOUGH THE ENRICHED URANIUM WAS PAID FOR AT THE TIME THAT THE ORDER WAS PLACED. UP TO NOW, SOUTH AFRICA HAS NOT EVEN RECEIVED AN INDICATION WHETHER AN EXPORT PERMIT FOR THE ELEMENTS WILL BE ISSUED. AS YOU KNOW, SOUTH AFRICA HAS DECIDED TO BUILD A NUCLEAR POWER STATION AT KOEBERG. SOUTH AFRICA HAS ENTERED INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE US ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR THE SUPPLY OF THE NECESSARY FUEL FOR THE INITIAL PERIOD. WHAT GUARENTEE DO WE HAVE THATTHIS CONTRACT WILL BE HONORED AND THAT THE FUEL WILL BE DELIVERED IN TIME, IS THE QUESTION I AM ENTITLED TO PUT TONIGHT. WE ARE STILLSERIOUSLY CONSIDERING ACCESSION TO THE NPT AND WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH THE UNITED STATES WHO LAST WEEK URGED US TO DO SO. BUT NATURALLY THE DISCRIMINATORY ACTIONS, INCLUDING THOSE TO WHICH I HAVE REFERRED, WILL BE RAISED AND WILL HAVE TO BE SORTED OUT AT THE SAME TIME. (APPLAUSE.) IN THE ENVISAGED DISCUSSIONS WE WOULD, OF COURSE, ALSO ASK FOR INFORMATION ON WHAT STEPS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN TO INDUCE OTHER COUNTRIES TO ADHERE TO THE NPT. ACCORDING TO THE LATEST INFORMATION AT MY DISPOSAL, IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT APART FROM OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NOT DONE SO, NO LESS THAN 13 OF THE 34 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY HAVE EITHER NOT RATIFIED OR ACCEDED TO THE NPT. THESE 13 COUTRIES ARE: ARGENTINA, BANGLADESH, BRAZIL, CHILE, COLOMBIA,

EGYPT, FRANCE (MAY I PAUSE HERE FOR A MOMENT AND SAY  
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PAGE 03      PRETOR 04369 02 OF 02 251800Z

"ET TU BRUTE" (LAUGHTER AND APPLAUSE), INDIA, INDONESIA,  
NIGER, PAKISTAN, PANAMA AND PORTUGAL. I ASK YOU IN ALL  
SERIOUSNESS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I ASK THE WORLD BY WHAT  
RIGHTS ARE THEY PRESSURIZING SOUTH AFRICA ? WHY THIS  
BLATANT DISCRIMINATION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA WHEN THERE  
ARE SO MANY OTHER COUNTRIES AND EVEN 13 WHO ARE SITTING  
ON THE BOARD ITSELF ? WHY MUST SOUTH AFRICA AGAIN  
BE SINGLED OUT ? THE USA, THE SOVIET  
UNION AND THE UNITED KINGDOM ARE PARTIES TO THE  
TREATY, BUT THEY HAVE FULLY PROTECTED THEIR POSITIONS  
AS NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES WITH LARGE NUCLEAR ARSENALS.  
INDEED, AT THIS TIME WHEN THE SOVIET UNION IS ACCUSING  
SOUTH AFRICA OF PREPARING A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION, REPORTS  
INDICATE THAT THE SOVIET UNION HERSELF HAS SET OFF  
A FURTHER EXPLOSION IN ITS CURRENT SERIES. SUCH,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, ARE THE DOUBLE STANDARDS TO  
WHICH SOUTH AFRICA IS SUBJECTED TO IN THIS WORLD. AND  
I SAY SO IN ALL SERIOUSNESS. AS A MATTER OF FACT, I  
SAY SO IN ALL HUMILITY. IF THESE THINGS CONTINUE AND  
DON'T STOP, THE TIME WILL ARRIVE WHEN SOUTH AFRICA  
WILL HAVE NO OPTION, SMALL AND IT IS, TO SAY TO THE  
WORLD, SO FAR AND NO FURTHER, DO YOUR DANMEST IF YOU  
SO WISH. (THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE.) END TEXT.BOWDLER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NUCLEAR ENERGY, TEXT, SPEECHES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 25-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION ACDA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1486533  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TEXT OF PM VORSTER'S REMARKS ON NUCLEAR ENERGY  
**TAGS:** MNUC, SF, (VORSTER, BALTHAZAR JOHANNES)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/2a5f7053-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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